

Senate Study Bill 3080 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON RAGAN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the renewal period for foster care
2 licensing.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 237.5, subsection 1, Code 2011, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. An individual or an agency shall apply for a license
4 by completing an application to the administrator upon forms
5 furnished by the administrator. The administrator shall issue
6 or reissue a license if the administrator determines that
7 the applicant or licensee is or upon commencing operation
8 will provide child foster care in compliance with this
9 chapter. A license for an individual is valid for ~~one year~~
10 two years from the date of issuance. A license for an agency
11 is valid for up to three years from the date of issuance
12 for the period determined by the administrator in accordance
13 with administrative rules providing criteria for making the
14 determination. The license shall state on its face the name of
15 the licensee, the type of facility, the particular premises for
16 which the license is issued, and the number of children who may
17 be cared for by the facility on the premises at one time. The
18 license shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the physical
19 plant of the facility, except that if the facility is in a
20 single-family home the license may be kept where it is readily
21 available for examination upon request.

22 Sec. 2. Section 237.5A, Code 2011, is amended to read as
23 follows:

24 **237.5A Foster parent training.**

25 1. As a condition for initial licensure, each individual
26 licensee shall complete thirty hours of foster parent
27 training offered or approved by the department. However,
28 if the licensee has completed relevant training or has a
29 combination of completed relevant training and experience,
30 and the department deems such training or combination to
31 be an acceptable equivalent to all or a portion of the
32 initial licensure training requirement, or based upon the
33 circumstances of the child and the licensee the department
34 finds there is other good cause, the department may waive all
35 or a portion of the training requirement. Prior to ~~annual~~

1 renewal of licensure, each individual licensee shall also
2 complete six hours of foster parent training. The training
3 shall include but is not limited to physical care, education,
4 learning disabilities, referral to and receipt of necessary
5 professional services, behavioral assessment and modification,
6 self-assessment, self-living skills, and biological parent
7 contact. An individual licensee may complete the training as
8 part of an approved training program offered by a public or
9 private agency with expertise in the provision of child foster
10 care or in related subject areas. The department shall adopt
11 rules to implement and enforce this training requirement.

12 2. A licensee who is unable to complete six hours of foster
13 parent training prior to ~~annual~~ licensure renewal because the
14 licensee is engaged in active duty in the military service
15 shall be considered to be in compliance with the training
16 requirement for ~~annual~~ licensure renewal.

17 EXPLANATION

18 This bill relates to the renewal period for foster care
19 licensing. The bill amends Code section 237.5 to increase
20 the time period a foster care license for an individual is
21 valid from one year to two years. The bill provides that an
22 individual licensee shall complete six hours of foster parent
23 training prior to licensure renewal rather than completing six
24 hours of training prior to the annual licensure renewal.